

# EUROPEAN PATENT OFFICE

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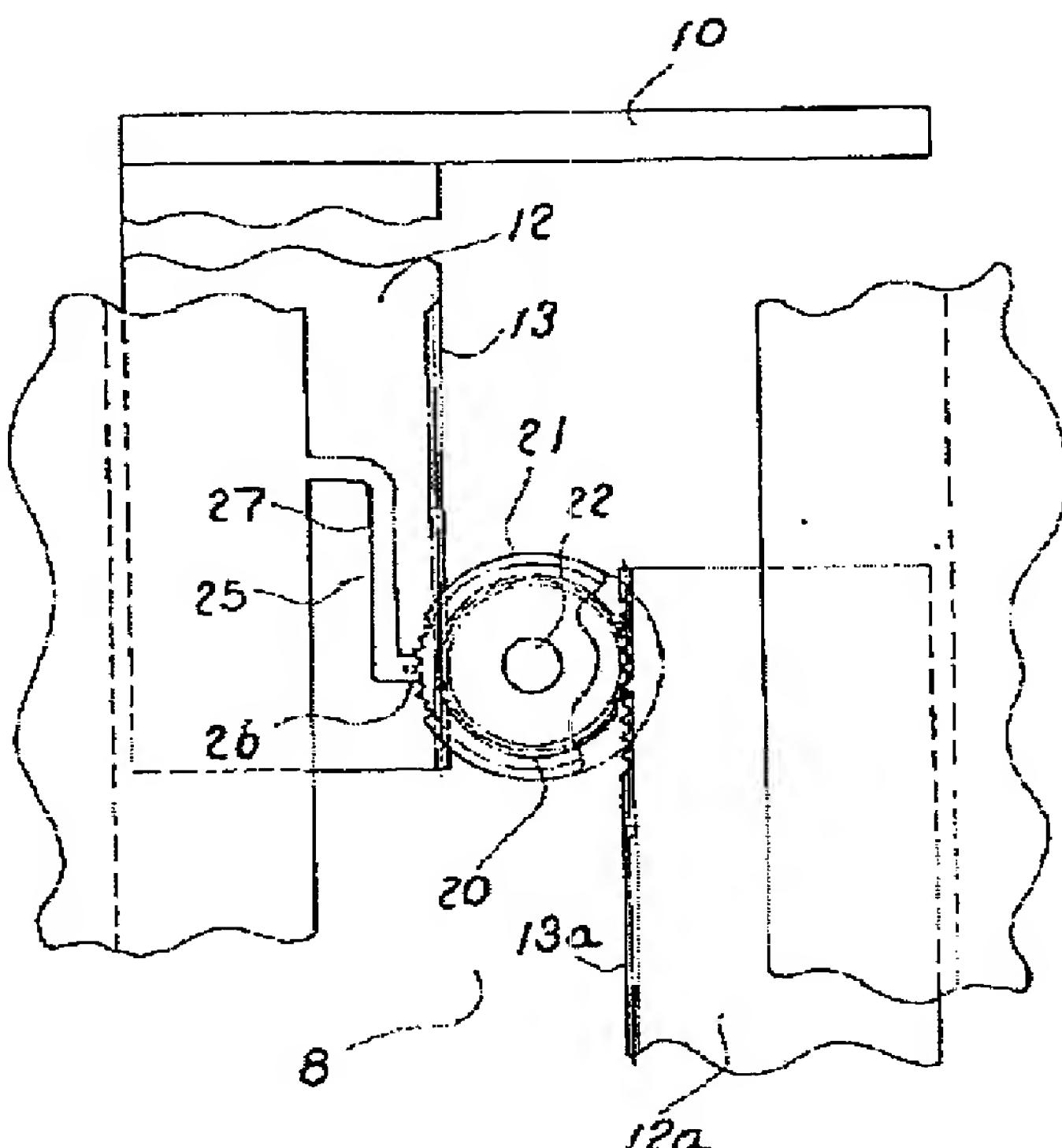
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ABSTRACT : PROBLEM TO BE SOLVED: To integrally mount a stopper gear having a fine gear coaxial with a pinion, to the rack pinion forming an interlocking mechanism of a side guide mounted on a paper feeding member such as a paper feeding cassette or the like, and to fix it by a locking means formed by a stopper member.

SOLUTION: In the side guide 10 for controlling both sides of the paper, racks 13, 13a of sliding members 12, 12a are engaged with the pinion 20 to be interlocked and moved in the directions to be separated from or brought into contact with each other. The stopper gear 21 is integrated with the pinion 20, and a locking claw member 26 of the stopper member 25 is engaged with the stopper gear to hold the pinion 20, whereby the pinion can not be rotated by weak force. The stopper gear 21 has teeth at fine pitches, and is engaged with one of plural projections formed on the locking claw member 26 to be fixed and held, whereby the stopper member is elastically disengaged in rotating the pinion by the movement of the racks.

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